

## 2016-2017 Historic Writing Contest

### Topics:

**A fictional story about History of railroads in Mesa  
or  
Holiday celebration in Mesa between 1890 and 1950  
OR  
A Written Oral History of Mesa from a Senior Citizen**



**All students in the 4th through 6th grade** who reside within the City of Mesa, are eligible to participate in the writing contest. Students with family members who serve on the Mesa Historic Preservation Board are not eligible to participate.

To download the student entry form and to learn more information, visit: <http://www.mesaaz.gov/about-us/historic-preservation>

### Contest Rules

**All entries must comply with the following contest rules before submission:**

- Literary form must be either historic fiction essay or oral history.
- Each entry must reflect the contestant's own research, writing and original thinking.
- All sources must be properly cited.
- Only one (1) entry may be submitted by each contestant.
- Each contestant must complete and attach a student entry form.
- Each entry will be a maximum of 750 words in length.
- Entries may be typed or neatly written.
- The title of the essay, but NOT the author's name, MUST appear on the top of all pages of the entry text.

Send the student form and essay to:

John D. Wesley  
Acting Historic Preservation Officer  
City of Mesa  
PO Box 1466  
Mesa, AZ 85211-1466

Or, if you wish to email your essay, send it to: [john.wesley@mesaaz.gov](mailto:john.wesley@mesaaz.gov)

Entries must be received or postmarked on or before November 18, 2016



### The Essay/Oral History

The entry can be either a historical fictional essay based on one of the topics listed above or an oral history of someone you interview. Historical fiction is a fictional story with real people and places and imaginary characters that takes place during a time in the history of Mesa. There are many resources available on the internet as well as local libraries, museums and cultural sites to help guide you in your writing. An oral history must be based on an interview with a senior citizen (65 years or older), who grew up in Mesa. The entry must convey their recollections of what Mesa was like prior to 1970.

### Awards

Every contestant will receive a certificate of participation. There will be cash awards given to the first (\$50), second (\$30), and third (\$20) place contest winners. The top three winners will be presented with their award money and certificates at a future televised Mesa City Council meeting.